

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A magnetic field compensation apparatus, comprising:

a first digital-to-analog converter responsive to a digitally encoded signal containing magnetic field compensation information; for generating a first analog signal containing the magnetic field compensation information from said digitally encoded signal;

a magnetic field compensation winding positioned on a cathode ray tube;

an amplifier responsive to said first analog signal and having an output that is coupled to said magnetic field compensation winding for producing a current in said magnetic field compensation winding, said current producing a magnetic field in a beam path of said cathode ray tube that compensates for an ambient magnetic field; and

a second digital-to-analog converter for generating a second analog signal that is coupled to an input of said amplifier that varies said current in accordance with said second analog signal.

2. The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said second analog signal tracks variations in said first analog signal for providing error compensation and wherein said magnetic field compensation current is controlled in accordance with a difference between said first and second analog signals.

3. The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said digital-to-analog converters are separate units contained in a single integrated circuit.

4. The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said digital-to-analog converters are energized from a common supply voltage.

5. The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said amplifier comprises a differential, input stage, wherein said first analog signal is coupled to one of an inverting input and a non-inverting input of said amplifier and wherein said second analog signal is coupled to the other one of said inverting and non-inverting inputs of said amplifier.

6. The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said compensation winding is coupled to a source of a supply voltage, wherein a polarity of said current varies in accordance with a difference between an output voltage of said amplifier and said supply voltage and wherein a polarity of said amplifier output voltage remains the same both when said current is at a first polarity and when said current is at a polarity that is opposite to said first polarity.

7. The apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a current negative feedback path coupled to said amplifier to reduce a dependency of said current on an impedance of said winding.

8. The apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a source of a second digitally encoded signal coupled to an input of said second digital-to-analog converter, wherein, during a degaussing interval, said value of said first and second digitally encoded signals are made to be equal for preventing the generation of said current.

5 9. A magnetic field compensation apparatus, comprising:

a magnetic field compensation winding positioned on a cathode ray tube to produce a magnetic field in a beam path of said cathode ray tube to compensate for an ambient magnetic field;

10 an amplifier having an output that is coupled to said winding for generating a magnetic field compensation current in said winding; and

a first semiconductor stage and a separate, second semiconductor stage for generating a first signal and a second signal, respectively, that are coupled to said amplifier to control said magnetic field compensation current, in accordance with a difference between said first and second signals, such that a deviation from an initial value selected for said first signal is
15 compensated by a corresponding change in a value of said second signal.

10. The magnetic field compensation apparatus according to Claim 9 wherein said semiconductor stages are contained in a single integrated circuit.

11. A magnetic field compensation apparatus, comprising:

20 a first semiconductor stage for generating a first signal containing magnetic field compensation information;

a magnetic field compensation winding positioned on a cathode ray tube;

25 an amplifier responsive to said first signal and having an output that is coupled to said magnetic field compensation winding for producing a current in said magnetic field compensation winding, said current producing a magnetic field in a beam path of said cathode ray tube that compensates for an ambient magnetic field; and

a second semiconductor stage in a common integrated circuit for generating a second signal that is coupled to an input of said amplifier to compensate for an error introduced in said first signal.

30 12. The apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein each of said semiconductor stages comprises a corresponding digital-to-analog converter.